## State of New Mexico ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



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## New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission to Consider Statewide Water Quality Management Plan

(Santa Fe, NM) -- The adoption of the revised statewide Water Quality Management Plan will be considered at a public hearing in front of the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission on October 1st, in Santa Fe. The revisions to the statewide water plan, proposed by the New Mexico Environment Department, eliminate outdated or inactive elements of the Plan, and update the Plan. A new component addressing implementation of the Commission's human health criteria is also proposed.

The Water Quality Management Plan is a planning tool developed to ensure that the state meets the long-range goals of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (also known as The Clean Water Act). These goals include "restoring and maintaining the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nations waters." The state Plan establishes a process that assures continuous planning for, and implementation of, pollution control measures.

The proposed revisions to the statewide water quality plan may be reviewed during regular business hours at the office of the Commission, 1190 St. Francis Drive, Room S-2054, Santa Fe, New Mexico, or call (505) 827-2425. For a copy of the hearing notice, the proposed revisions, or questions, contact Glenn Saums of the Department's Surface Water Quality Bureau, 1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502, (505) 827-2827, glenn\_saums@nmenv.state.nm.us or visit the New Mexico Environment Department's website at <a href="http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/swqh">http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/swqh</a>.

The public will be given an opportunity to give testimony at the hearing. Anyone wishing to give technical testimony must file a notice with the Water Quality Control Commission by September 20. Any person needing to file such notice can get the requirements from the Commission Office at (505) 827-2425 or visit the Commission website at <a href="http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/Oots/wqcc.htm">http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/Oots/wqcc.htm</a>.

The Commission meeting is scheduled to begin October 1, at 9 a.m. with the hearing on the plan scheduled fifth on the agenda. The meeting and hearing will be in the NM State Capitol Building, Room 317. The Capitol is located at the corner of Paseo de Peralta and Don Gaspar, in Santa Fe.

For more information, contact <u>Glenn Saums</u>, Program Manager, <u>Surface Water Quality Bureau</u>, NMED at (505) 827-2827, or <u>Stephanie Stringer</u>, Outreach Coordinator, <u>Surface Water Quality Bureau</u>, NMED at (505) 827-0418.

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